

(f) A statement that the Secretary reserves the right to reject any and all bids, and the right to offer the lease to the next qualified bidder if the successful bidder fails to obtain the lease for any reason; and

(g) Any other information deemed appropriate.

§ 3555.4 Bid opening.

All bids shall be opened and announced at the time and date specified in the notice of lease sale, but no bids shall be accepted or rejected at that time. Bids received after the time specified in the notice of sale shall not be considered. A bid may be withdrawn or modified prior to the time specified in the notice of sale.

§ 3555.5 Award of lease.

After the authorized officer has determined that the highest qualified bid meets or exceeds fair market value, copies of the proposed lease attached to the detailed statement shall be sent to the successful bidder who shall, within a specified time, sign and return the lease form, pay the balance of the bonus bid, pay the first year's rental, pay the publication costs and furnish the required lease bond.

§ 3555.6 Rejection of bid.

(a) If the high bid is rejected for failure of the successful bidder to sign the lease form and pay the balance of the bonus bid, or otherwise comply with the regulations of this subpart, the one-fifth bonus accompanying the bid shall be forfeited to the United States.

(b) If the lease cannot be awarded for reasons determined by the authorized officer to be beyond the control of the successful bidder, the authorized officer shall reject the bid and the deposit submitted with the bid shall be returned.

Subpart 3556—Noncompetitive Leasing: Fringe Acreage Leases and Lease Modifications

§ 3556.1 Lands subject to lease.

Lands available for leasing which are known to contain a "Gilsonite" deposit that extends from an adjoining Federal

lease or from privately held lands may be leased noncompetitively either by an issuance of a new lease for these lands or by adding such lands to an existing Federal lease.

§ 3556.2 Special requirements.

Before a fringe acreage lease may be issued or a lease modified under this subpart, the authorized officer shall determine the following:

(a) The lands are contiguous to an existing Federal lease or to non-federal lands owned or controlled by the applicant;

(b)(1) The new lease for the fringe acreage is not in excess of 5120 acres; or

(2) The acreage of the modified lease, including additional lands, is not in excess of 5120 acres;

(c) The mineral deposit is not in an area of competitive interest to holders of other active mining units in the area;

(d) The lands applied for lack sufficient reserves of the mineral resource to warrant independent development; and

(e) Leasing the lands will result in conservation of natural resources and will provide for economical and efficient recovery as part of a mining unit.

§ 3556.3 Filing requirements.

(a) An application shall be filed in triplicate with the proper BLM office. No specific application form is required.

(b) The application shall be accompanied by a nonrefundable filing fee of \$25, and an advance rental payment of 25 cents per acre or fraction thereof for a new lease or at the rental rate set forth in the base lease for a modification made payable to the Department of the Interior—Bureau of Land Management. The rental payment shall not be less than \$20.

(c) The application shall:

(1) Make reference to the serial number of the lease if the lands adjoin an existing Federal lease;

(2) Contain a complete and accurate description of the lands desired;

(3) Include a showing that a "Gilsonite" deposit extends from the applicant's adjoining lease or from private lands owned or controlled by the applicant; and